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The Publishers' Weekly.

JUNE 27, 1874.

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On to the Convention!

ALL hail to Boston! The publishers of the Hub have responded to a man. Lee & Shepard took the lead in signing the call of their suffering brethren, and were promptly followed by the Osgoods, Little, Brown & Co., Roberts, and the whole publishing body almost without an exception. Every one that possibly can leave the city is going to Put-in Bay, or will send a representative. They joined the rank and file with heart and soul. Remember it!

The Book Trade Union movement is spreading rapidly, as will be further seen by an important announcement which we are not authorized to make till our next number, and every one in the trade will find it to his interest to be present at the Convention.

NOTES IN SEASON.

MESSRS. A. K. BUTTS & CO. have a publication of general interest in their forthcoming issue of Bradlaugh's "Essays on Questions of Religion and Politics," in both of which fields he outradicals the radicals. Prof. Marvin's title of "Mediomania" for his lectures on spiritualism, also to be published by them, gives sufficient cue to his view of the subject.

STANLEY'S BOOK, "Coomassie and Magdala," is one of the next things on the list of the Harpers. It gives a graphic account of the two English campaigns into Africa, against King Theodore of Abyssinia and King Koffee of Ashantee, and is highly spoken of by the English press. About the same time will be ready Prof. De Mille's sensational novel of "The Living Link," now running in the *Magazine*.

THE Philadelphia *Evening Telegraph* now announces a translation of Jules Verne's latest story, "The Adventures of Dr. Ox," which will be published by-and-by, with some other short stories by this master of the marvelous, by the Osgoods. The *New York Tribune* has issued in its extras several complete English novels, at ten cents apiece. including "The Wooing O't," which is nevertheless still selling in the "Leisure Hour Series" at the rate of a thousand a month The newspapers have a perfect right to do this, to any extent they please, but we don't know that it is quite fair for the *Tribune*, which profits so much from the publishers, to run counter in this way. However, it always *was* in favor of free trade!

SIR SAMUEL BAKER'S new work bears the title "Ismailia." It is now completed and an American edition will be printed in the late summer or early fall by Harper & Bros. This describes Sir Samuel's adventures as the head of the military expedition sent by the Khedive for the suppression of the slave trade along the Upper Nile.

A SISTER of the late Hon. Robert Walker, Mrs. M. W. Cook, has in preparation a translation of the works of the great Polish poet, Krasinski, as to whom there appeared a lively article in a recent number of the *Arcadian*.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

MERIDIAN AND TUSCALOOSA.—The partnership heretofore existing between George A. Searcy and E. Philips, doing business in Meridian, Miss., and Tuscaloosa, Ala., has expired by limitation. E. Phillips & Co. assume the liabilities and are authorized to collect the accounts due Searcy & Philips of Meridian. George A. Searcy assumes the liabilities and is authorized to collect the accounts due George A. Searcy & Co. of Tuscaloosa.

NEW YORK CITY.—Taintor Bros., School Book Publishers, have removed from 676 Broadway to 758 Broadway.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.—Reed & Adriance, booksellers and stationers, have been succeeded by Reed & Leroy, Sherman H. Leroy having purchased the interest of I. R. Adriance.

PHILADELPHIA.—The Protestant Episcopal Book Society have disposed of their stereotype plates and entire stock in trade to Mr. James Hammond, who, for the past seventeen years, has been their chief clerk. He will continue the business on his own account, and the Executive Committee would cordially recommend him to the confidence of all with whom the Society heretofore have had business transactions.

PHILADELPHIA.—Dreka, stationery and engraving house, have removed to the spacious store No. 1121 Chestnut street.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BOOKS JUST PUBLISHED.

The Prices in this List are for cloth lettered, unless otherwise indicated. Imported books are marked with an asterisk; Authors' and Subscription Books, or Books published at net prices, with two asterisks.

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The Trade List Annual for 1874.

OUR preparations are now well forward for the publication of the Uniform Trade List Annual for 1874—the lateness of Mr. Whittaker's compilation, which had not been heard from at last accounts, precludes our waiting for it; and circulars giving full information to publishers and advertisers are issued this week. The previous volume, though but a crude and imperfect first effort in comparison to what we hope to make this second issue, received unanimous commendation from the trade. Its usefulness to the dealer and its profit to the contributing publishers have been universally conceded. The publication of the annual reference list and the more complete representation of publishers this year, will add very much to the practical value of the Annual, and we trust that no publishing house in the country will this year fail to supply its list. A publisher who permits his list to be omitted is sure to lose a good many sales. The convenience of the volume, both in handling and consulting, will be much enhanced by the more general uniformity of style. The reduction of the catalogue of the Methodist Book Concern, which occupies no less than 144 pp. of the last, to a compact list of 38 pp., is a case in point. We trust this example will be generally followed, so that the volume, while containing more matter, may be much less bulky. We would especially call the attention of both contributors and subscribers to the limitations as to time. We *must* issue it in good season this year, and this requires that all lists or advertisements, to insure insertion, shall be forwarded by the last of July. We cannot undertake to fill subscriptions received after the first of July; the number of copies is again limited, and if any are to be had at all after publication, it will be at an increased price. It will be remembered that copies of the Annual were held at several times the publication price last year. We ask again, therefore, that all interested in the Annual will come forward promptly, and thus insure the fulness and general distribution of the work.

WE have a long letter from a prominent Western dealer, excepting to the publication of our stationery price list, as tending to acquaint the buyer with information which induces him to demand much lower prices than he ought fairly to get. We may couple with this a criticism made some time since upon our publicly stating and discussing the demoralization of prices in the book trade. In answer to both, we may say, in the first place, that this paper is the trade organ, and circulates chiefly in and for the benefit of the trade. Our correspondents are really objecting to the issue of trade papers, whose high usefulness is otherwise unanimously acknowledged. It is necessary for the information of the trade, that prices should be quoted, and for its development that trade questions should be discussed. But, secondly, the whole matter lies in a nutshell: the whole difficulty of exorbitant discounts is to be laid at the doors of the publishers and dealers and in no wise of the newspapers, whose influence has all along been the other way. It has not been that the public demanded underselling, but that unwise competing dealers made it the rule. We believe the public is always willing to allow the middleman a fair remuneration for the service he does it, and if the trade itself can ever be made to keep up to the mark, there will be no difficulty on that score.

Railroad Fare to the Convention.

Reduced Rates for the meeting of the American Book Trade Union at Put-in Bay, July 21, 22 and 23, 1874.

At this season of the year railroad ticket offices in all parts of the country that sell coupon tickets have on sale round trip tickets to Put-in Bay, at excursion rates, a little more than half price. Delegates by exchange of tickets at Put-in Bay, can return by a different route.

Besides these rates to the general public, some roads have agreed to special rates for this convention.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad agrees to carry passengers to and from this convention at two cents per mile each way, if round trip tickets are taken. Also will carry Western and Southern delegates from the convention to the Eastern cities and return them at as low or lower rates than the above-mentioned, giving them any desired time to remain in the Eastern cities to do their trading.

The New York Central and Hudson River Railroad will at that time have very low competing through and return rates, which will, perhaps, afford as cheap a line of travel as any.

The Toledo, Wabash and Western Railroad will allow round trip tickets at a small fraction over half rates. This is the line to be used in coming from Southern Illinois, St. Louis and further West.

The Cincinnati, Sandusky and Cleveland Railroad is the convenient one for the Cincinnati and Southern trade, and will carry the passengers on round trip tickets at a little over half rates. It is understood that Southern roads will bring the trade from New Orleans, Memphis, Nashville, Louisville and other Southern cities, at the same rates running in connection with this road.

The Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad, and its branches, will send certificates through the chairman of this committee to all dealers along its lines, which will enable them to buy round trip tickets at two cents per mile each way.

The Pennsylvania Railroad will at that time have round trip excursion rates.

The railroads centering in Chicago being compelled by law to carry passengers at low rates, will not make special terms. Some dealers on lines far west of Chicago may avail themselves of round trip tickets and save money.

The Michigan Southern and the Michigan Central will have low through rates extending to the Eastern cities, and return.

Booksellers desiring to attend the convention are advised to make an effort to secure for themselves low rates on round trip tickets, and in most cases they will have no difficulty.

Railroad men inform the chairman of the committee, that if there is a large gathering, there will be railroad agents at the meeting from the leading roads carrying passengers East, who will offer exceedingly low figures from Put-in Bay to the East and return. It may prove to be best not to buy tickets further East than the convention, and then take the chances of railway competition from there East. Booksellers able to aid in securing low rates are hereby solicited to communicate with the chairman of this committee. For the good of the cause efforts should be made to induce a large attendance, by securing the lowest possible rates of travel from all points.

The Committee on Entertainment have secured the reduced rates of $2.50 per day for delegates at the Put-in Bay House.

Parties wishing to seeure rooms should write soon to Sweny, West & Co., proprietors.

THOS. D. HUBBARD, Chairman.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, June 15, 1874.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Book Trade and the Reciprocity Treaty.

PHILADELPHIA, June 22.—The Canadian Reciprocity Treaty has aroused the Book Trade Association of this city, and on the 20th inst. a meeting was called to discuss the situation. Mr. J. S. Megargee, of the well-known paper house, presided. As the treaty savored of free trade, Mr. Henry C. Baird was, as a matter of course, on the ground, and presented the following resolutions, which, after some debate as to their verbiage, were adopted:

WHEREAS, It has been brought to the notice of the Book Trade Association of Philadelphia, that the President of the United States has transmitted to the Senate a copy of a proposed reciprocity treaty with Canada, and

WHEREAS, Its provisions, so far as known, are inimical to the best interests of the productive industries of the United States and to the revenues of the government; therefore be it

Resolved, That a knowledge of the foregoing treaty has filled us with alarm at the consequences which are likely to result as well to the paper, printing, type founding and publishing businesses, as to other productive industries of the country.

Resolved, That this alarm arises not alone from the fear of Canadian competition, but as well from the apprehension that Canada will, by the provisions of this treaty, become the great entrepot for the reception of goods from all parts of the world, to be legally smuggled into the United States.

Resolved, That this treaty inaugurates free trade in its most obnoxious form, and if the principle is followed up and applied to other countries, it will involve the necessity of collecting the entire revenues of the government by internal taxation.

Resolved That as well for the foregoing considerations as from the fact that the negotiation of such treaties by the Executive Department and the Senate, involving control over the collection of revenues from foreign imports, is manifestly an interference with one of the highest prerogatives of the House of Representatives, we are uncompromisingly opposed to it and to all others of a like character.

Resolved, That these resolutions be published, and that copies of them be transmitted to the Senators from Pennsylvania, with the earnest request that they will use all proper means to defeat the ratification of the foreign treaty.

A committee was then appointed, consisting of Messrs. Moore, Cope and Baird, to visit Washington, and present the resolutions to the Senate and the Executive Department.

The troublesome parts of the treaty, so far as the Book Trades are concerned, consist in the admission of the following articles, first at a reduced tariff, and subsequently free of duty: Ashes—pot, pearl and soda; rags of all kinds; lead—sheet or pig; printing paper for newspapers; paper-making machines or parts thereof; printing type, presses, and folders; paper cutters; ruling machines; page numbering machines; and stereotyping and electrotyping apparatus, or parts thereof. These, under article IV. of the treaty, are to be of the "growth, produce, or manufacture of the Dominion of Canada or of the United States."

It will be noted that books are not among the articles in the above list, and also that the articles which are mentioned are those which are very largely produced in this country, and to a very small extent in Canada. The natural conclusion would therefore be that we should profit much more than the Canadians, so far at least as the Book Trades are concerned, in being able to offer our productions in the Canadian market, free of the duty now imposed. But on the other hand, how will it be possible to discriminate between Canadian productions and articles of the same kind imported from England? These, after passing through the hands of Canadian merchants, might be shipped to this country as the "growth, production, or manufacture of the Dominion of Canada," and under the treaty be admitted free of duty. It is of course to be presumed that the majority of Canadian merchants are perfectly honest, and would not be guilty of swearing to false invoices, but there are plenty of men who, if the chance offered, are quite ready to make a dishonest dollar, even at the risk of being convicted of perjury. Much, no doubt, might be said on both sides of the question. It would doubtless be a good thing for our type founders and press makers to be able to supply the Canadian market, but the difficulties to be guarded against seem so great, that the advantages likely to accrue from the treaty are at least balanced by the dangers which may arise from the cause I have indicated. How the treaty is likely to hurt the publishing interests is not so obvious. Very few booksellers or publishers take an active part in the doings of the Book Trades Association. It was found useful to give it that title a year or two ago when it was founded, but the only active book man in the concern is Mr. Baird. Paper makers and type founders are the moving spirits, and with the possible exception of the action taken in the matter of the uniform school book law, in which the school book publishers were interested, the book men proper have had small occasion to feel interested in what the Association did. An imposing array of names may be obtained to a petition to Congress, by including every branch of industry connected with paper and print, especially if the journeymen as well as their employers are induced to sign, but it would be assuming too much to suppose that in all matters the Association represented the publishers and booksellers of Philadelphia. The interests of the book men are not always identical with those of the paper or type manufacturers, although it is just to say that their interests are frequently allied.

Some months must elapse before the Senate will take into consideration the Reciprocity Treaty, and meanwhile it will be well if the trade consider its provisions so far as it affects their interests.

J. V. W.

MR. ALBERT WEBSTER, Jr., a writer for *Appleton's Journal*, is to be the watering-place correspondent of that paper this summer.

LITERARY AND TRADE NEWS.

As noted in a recent number of the *Publishers' Weekly* the well known and popular firm of Mason, Baker & Pratt was dissolved, May 30th last. The senior partner, Mr. Albert Mason, removes from their old location to No 129 Grand street, where he proposes to confine himself exclusively to publishing. Mr. Mason has had a long experience in the book trade, having been a partner in the firms of Blakeman & Mason, Oakley, Mason & Co., and Mason, Baker & Pratt. He commenced with the books published by the late firm to which he has made several additions, and he proposes to increase his list from time to time.

HERE is a new patent of interest to bookmakers: 150,495. – Book-Sewing Machine.—Henry G. Thompson. Milford, and Edward G. Parkhurst, Hartford, Conn., assignors to Henry G. Thompson. Application filed November 19, 1873. The signature is notched, placed upon the needles, the lacing-thread is passed, and the signature folded. The lifters are then thrown forward by means of levers, a cam operating the frame, thus holding the sewed signatures firmly in position. At the same movement of the lever the cam operates upon a slide, which is kept tightly pressed against the cam by the pressure of the right angle lever upon a bearing bar by means of a spring. The movement of the right angle lever by this means operates the bar and throws pivoted hooks around the needles, holding them firmly in position for the operation of the thread carrier. A backward movement of the lever withdraws the hook from around the needles and the lifters from over the signatures, and permits the addition to the partly-sewed book of another signature.

THE veteran senior of the Harper house is at this writing still lying seriously ill at his residence on Fifth Avenue. He was comfortable at last accounts, but can scarcely live much longer. He is 87 years of age, and the shocks to his system caused by his having been thrown from his carriage a few years ago, and his paralytic attacks, will make his recovery well-nigh impossible.

A NUMBER of important books are in press for publication next fall, by Nelson & Phillips (Methodist Book Concern). Among these Rev. Alfred Taylor's "Peeps at our Sunday Schools" ought to be especially interesting from his experience on the subject, and Dr. John Hall's address in "Preaching Manner and Matter" is of first importance. "Helps to Prayer," by Rev. B. P. Kidder, D.D., the "Christian Law of Giving," by Rev. S. H. Platt, and a hint on "What to Read," promises to be noteworthy; with these are to be given "Talks with Girls" by Miss Augusta Larned, always a healthful and pleasing writer, and Josephine P. Ward promises a new child's story, "Gipsy's Travels."

NORVAL'S "Steamship Notes" have run out its first edition and a second one of five thousand copies is now in the market.

IN view of the study of the International Lessons from July to December, 1874, Messrs. Randolph & Co. purpose issuing that portion of the Biblical Museum on Mark in a neat and inexpensive form. Comper Gray's ingenious plan of bringing into small space the essence of criticism upon the New Testament will no doubt commend this book to many.

"FETTERED for Life," Mrs. Devereux Blake's novel, is in the third edition and selling well.

The Stationers' Trade List Annual.

We have published the objections made by Messrs. Wilson, Hinkle & Co., Collins & Bro., Porter & Coates and others, in relation to the unhandy size of the **UNIFORM TRADE LIST ANNUAL**, who all concur that in its present shape the volume is too cumbrous and unwieldy. The same objections have been made, before and since, so frequently that we now feel compelled to hit upon a new plan, in order to remove this feature, which in the forthcoming **ANNUAL** would become still more objectionable by the addition of the Stationery department, which we first intended to bind up with the volume. In fact this feature already appears a difficulty insurmountable by the skill of the bookbinder.

We therefore propose to publish a few weeks later, in a special volume, the bulk of the stationery and fancy goods trade lists and business cards of connected branches, with a full index that will enable the dealer to turn to any article or firm.

The advantages derived from this plan are double: First, the **PUBLISHERS' TRADE LIST ANNUAL** will be freed from all miscellaneous matter that may interfere with prompt reference; second, in making the **STATIONERY TRADE LIST ANNUAL** a special enterprise, the representation can be made much fuller, while the same advantages, of containing only matter relating to their special branches, will be gained, for the practical purposes of the retailing Stationery and Fancy Goods Trades.

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☞ Suggestions and endorsements of this new enterprise are respectfully solicited and will be thankfully received.

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